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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH and SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITWORTH ~~OF THE DISTRICT~~ DURING 1942

WHITWORTH :
H. Howard, Printer and Stationer, 669 Market Street

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH and SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITWORTH OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1942

WHITWORTH :
H. Howard, Printer and Stationer, 669 Market Street

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman—Councillor T. Groarke

Councillors W. Clegg, J.P. *(ex-officio)*

F. Holt, J.P.

G. Kershaw (*Deceased*)

A. Taylor

S. Crossley

A. Hargreaves

Mrs. Isabella Heys

Medical Officer of Health:
Dr. J. W. McKinney, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Housing Inspector:
Mr. F. Cookson, M.S.I.A.

Clerk: Miss Julie Nolan

Clerk and Solicitor to the Council:
Mr. H. Hoyle

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE WHITWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1942.

Mrs. Heys and Gentlemen :

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report for the year 1942 which, in the interest of economy of paper, is still curtailed.

During the latter part of the year we had an outbreak of Diphtheria of a fairly severe type, especially in the non-immunized, but mild generally in the immunized. In my opinion, certain of the immunized, whilst not contracting the disease or showing any active signs, acted as carriers, and until more are immunized this will be a source of danger. A good many of the cases were adolescents.

The general health and nourishment of the population has otherwise remained very satisfactory.

My best thanks are due to the Committee, my colleagues and especially Mr. Cookson for all their willing assistance.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES W. McKINNEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Council Offices, Whitworth,
30th August, 1943.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	98	48	50	Birth-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population: 14·9
	Illegitimate	8	1	7	
	Total ...	106	49	57	
Still Births		3	2	1	Rate per 1000 Total (live and stillbirths) 26
Deaths		120	62	58	Death-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... ... 16·9

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1000 Total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	—
Total	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:

Death-rate: 5 Males, 5 Females	10
Legitimate deaths	10
Illegitimate deaths	0
All infants per 1000 live births...	94
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	102
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 23

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) 2

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 total (live and still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1000 Live Births
1941	14·9	15·8	0·13	1·9	Nil	Nil	64
1942	14·9	16·9	0·28	3·2	Nil	Nil	94
Previous Year	Nil	+1·1	+0·15	+1·3	Nil	Nil	+30

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

During the Year 1942.

Disease	Cases Notified														Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages	Age Periods—Years												Total deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over			
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	6	...	1	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diphtheria, (including Membranous Croup) ...	46	...	...	3	3	6	11	9	11	3	...	...	...	2	44	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia ... / Acute Influenzal Pneumonia...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumococcal Meningitis..	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-Encephalitis...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Malaria — Contracted in this Country ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria — Abroad	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other diseases *notifiable* in district, *e.g.* :—																
Chicken-Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German measles ...	62	4	4	9	7	9	28	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Whooping Cough	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	119	4	5	13	11	15	42	11	12	5	0	1	0	6	49	2

CAUSES OF DEATH.

		M.	F.
All Causes		62	58
Enteric fever		...	...
Small-pox		...	...
Measles		...	...
Scarlet fever		...	...
Whooping cough		...	...
Diphtheria		2	...
Influenza		...	1
Meningococcal meningitis		...	...
Respiratory Tuberculosis		2	...
Other Tuberculosis		2	...
Cancer		14	9
Rheumatic fever		...	...
Diabetes		...	...
Cerebral hæmorrhage		1	5
Heart disease		16	19
Other circulatory diseases		5	4
Bronchitis		3	5
Pneumonia (all forms)		3	1
Other respiratory diseases		1	...
Peptic ulcer		1	...
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)		1	1
Appendicitis		...	...
Liver diseases		...	...
Other digestive diseases		4	5
Nephritis		2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica		...	1
Syphilis		...	...
Endocarditis and Premature Birth, etc.		...	2
Other diseases of pregnancy and parturition		1	...
Suicide		2	1
Road Traffic Accidents		1	...
Other deaths from violence		...	1
Other defined causes		...	...
Ill-defined or not known		1	2
Poliomyelitis		...	...
Polioencephalitis		...	...
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ...	Total	5	5
	Legitimate ...	5	5
	Illegitimate ...	...	...
Live Births	Total	49	57
	Legitimate ...	48	50
	Illegitimate ...	1	7
Stillbirths	Total	2	1
	Legitimate ...	2	1
	Illegitimate ...	...	...

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes. Certified	2	1	0	1	4	2	3	...	1	10
All Causes. Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ... / Atrophy, Debility	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Marasmus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis *not Tuberculous*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
Suffocation...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Endocarditis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Pemphigus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accident	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	2	1	0	1	4	2	3	0	1	10

Births { legitimate... 98, illegitimate 8 } 106

Deaths { legitimate infants, 10, illegitimate infants, 0 } 10

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 „	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
5—10 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15 „	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25 „	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
25—35 „	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
35—45 „	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
45—55 „	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
55—65 „	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
65 and upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	4	0	1	2	4	0	2	0
	4		3		4		2	
	7				6			
Total 1941 ...	5	5	3	1	2	0	1	0
	10		4		2		1	

The following is a list of the occupations, if any, followed by notified cases during the year 1942.

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cotton operatives	—	2
Infant.....	—	1
Postman	1	—
Steeplejack	1	—
Labourer	—	1
None	1	—
	3	4

GENERAL NOTES.

The **Birth Rate** is 14·9 as compared with 14·9 in 1941. The sex incidence is Males 49, Females 57.

The **Death Rate** is 16·9 as compared with 15·8 in 1941. The sex incidence is Males 62, Females 58.

Infantile Mortality. 10 deaths giving a rate of 94 as compared with 6 deaths giving a rate of 64 in 1941.

The **Maternal Mortality Rate** is Nil.

There has been an increase in the **Cancer** Death Rate—23 deaths in 1942 over 13 in 1941.

The children of the district are cared for at the Lancashire County Council School Clinic and come under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, who also carries out the duties of School Medical Officer.

School children attend for dental treatment also at the Lancashire County Council School Clinic. The service is much appreciated, as shown by the numbers who come in for treatment.

The Child Welfare Clinic has also a very large number of mothers and babies attending each weekly session, which is a very satisfactory feature.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria. During the latter part of the year we had a severe outbreak of Diphtheria involving 46 cases and 2 deaths. Both adolescents and children were affected in equal proportions.

All the cases were removed to Hospital and confirmed Bacteriologically.

Immunisation. Good progress was made, and the following figures give the percentage of the children who were immunised at the end of 1942.

Number of children under 5 years of age 334
Percentage of child population under 5 ..... 66%
Number of children aged 5 years and over, but under 15 years of age 687
Percentage of child population between 5 and 15 ..... 62%

Measles and Whooping Cough. There were 64 cases and no deaths occurred.

Smallpox. Hospital accommodation is provided at the Bury and District Joint Hospital.

Other Infectious Diseases. Agreement with the County Borough of Rochdale for the treatment of these diseases at Marland Isolation Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities. Infectious cases are provided with an Ambulance by the Hospital. Non-infectious cases by the County Borough of Rochdale.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examination of specimens is carried out at St. Alban's Laboratory, Rochdale.

All **Scarlet Fever** cases, providing the necessary isolation treatment is available at home, are nursed at home and not removed to our Isolation Hospital.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Whitworth.

Mrs. Heys and Gentlemen :

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

The report is somewhat delayed and abbreviated, but contains, if only briefly, details of the major activities of the department.

The Cleansing and Salvage side of the work has been carried on satisfactorily, in spite of the difficulties in man-power.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the courtesy and consideration extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and tender my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health for his valued assistance rendered in the discharge of my duties.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

FRED COOKSON, C.R.S.I.,

Sanitary Inspector.
Meat and Foods Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Number of premises visited	72
Number of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances found	83
Number of sanitary improvements effected	71
Number of informal notices issued	36
Number of Statutory Notices issued	2

It was not found necessary to take legal proceedings in any case.

Factories Act.

No contraventions of the Act were reported during the year

Arrangements were made at the Spodden Mill for part of the sanitary accommodation, consisting of pail closets, to be converted to the fresh water carriage system.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY.

The inspection of all premises used for the preparation and sale of foodstuffs has received attention.

It is satisfactory to note that no action was necessary.

Slaughter-houses.

As reported last year, the Regional Slaughter Scheme suspended the slaughter of animals for human food in the seven licensed slaughterhouses.

The following foodstuffs have been surrendered as unfit for human consumption, and dealt with according to present instructions :—

Canned Pork, Beef or Tongue...	66lbs.
Beetroot.....	8 tins
Meat and Vegetables	1 tin
Jam	2lbs.
Margarine	13lbs.
Cheese	24lbs.

This is a very small amount of food considering the various articles which are now tinned.

Bakehouses.

The number of premises being used as bakehouses is 20 and inspections have been carried out from time to time. A satisfactory standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The provisions of the above Act relating to the general sampling of food are administered under the Act by the Lancashire County Council in co-operation with the Local Authority.

Sampling of various foods has been carried out during the year, and in no instance was it necessary to prosecute for any offence.

Milk and Dairies.

Due to restrictions little change has taken place in the way of alterations or improvements to farm buildings. Throughout the district there are 35 dairy farms and 41 cowkeepers (including dairy farms) representing approximately 450 head of cattle.

Periodical inspection of these premises has taken place.

Milk—Tuberculosis.

44 samples were submitted for detecting supplies of Tuberculous milk, as compared with 13 for 1941, the samples representing the mixed milk of approximately 500 cows. 2 of the samples were found to contain tubercle bacilli, and as a result the farms were visited by the County Veterinary Inspector and the affected cattle found and slaughtered.

School milk was in addition sampled and in these instances the results were negative.

Milk—Bacteriological.

12 samples were submitted for bacterial count and coliform bacillus, and of this number, compared with the accredited milk standard, 4 were not satisfactory. Suggestions were put forward to the farmers for an improvement.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sources of supply are from the Rochdale and Bacup Corporation Reservoirs. During the year 4 bacteriological and 4 chemical analyses were made, and the results were satisfactory in all cases.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two in the district, namely one Tripe Boiler and one Hide Curer. Both comply with the stipulated regulations of such trades and there has been no cause for complaint.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation of the area is as follows :—

Fresh Water Closets	1801
Waste Water Closets	164
Pail Closets	65
No. of houses on the Water Carriage system	2523

The Pail Closets existing are situated at the following premises :—

Dwelling-houses	37
Mills and Workshops	10
Farms	7
Churches, etc.....	11

With very few exceptions they cannot be converted to the fresh water carriage system, in view of the fact that they are situated in outlying parts where there is no sewer available.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Domestic refuse is collected from all dwelling-houses, the collection being carried out by motor waggon. Due to difficulties, such as labour shortage and exceptional weather conditions, the weekly collections could not be maintained, but efforts were made to avoid any cause for complaint.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land at Landgate. No complaint has been received as to any nuisance from the tip.

Salvage.

The recovery of all waste materials is of great importance, and the Government have now made compulsory salvage of most materials.

The following table shows the weights of materials dealt with during the twelve months under review.

	Tons	Cwts.
Waste Paper.....	54	15
Scrap Iron.....	4	0
Tins	25	15
Non-ferrous Metals	1	0
Textiles (Rags, String, etc.)...	3	10
Household Bones	1	10
Bottles and Jars	2	0
Rubber	1	10
Kitchen Waste	22	0

To increase the salvage much publicity was given to the matter, but although the collection is still better than 1941 there is much material not put out for salvage.

The following gives the details and cost of collection and disposal :—

Loads removed	1035
Cost per load	£1 2s. 5d.
Refuse in tons (estimated)	2588
Cost per ton	8/11d.
Number of houses and premises	2600
Cost per house per annum	8/11d.
Average length of haul	1½ miles

SEWAGE WORKS.

The method of treatment is by precipitation tanks, continuous filters and humus tanks. Three samples of effluent were taken by the Rivers Inspector, and in each instance were classed as "satisfactory."

During the year 1550 pressfuls of sludge have been dealt with, representing in dry cake weight 543 tons.

Council Offices,
Whitworth.